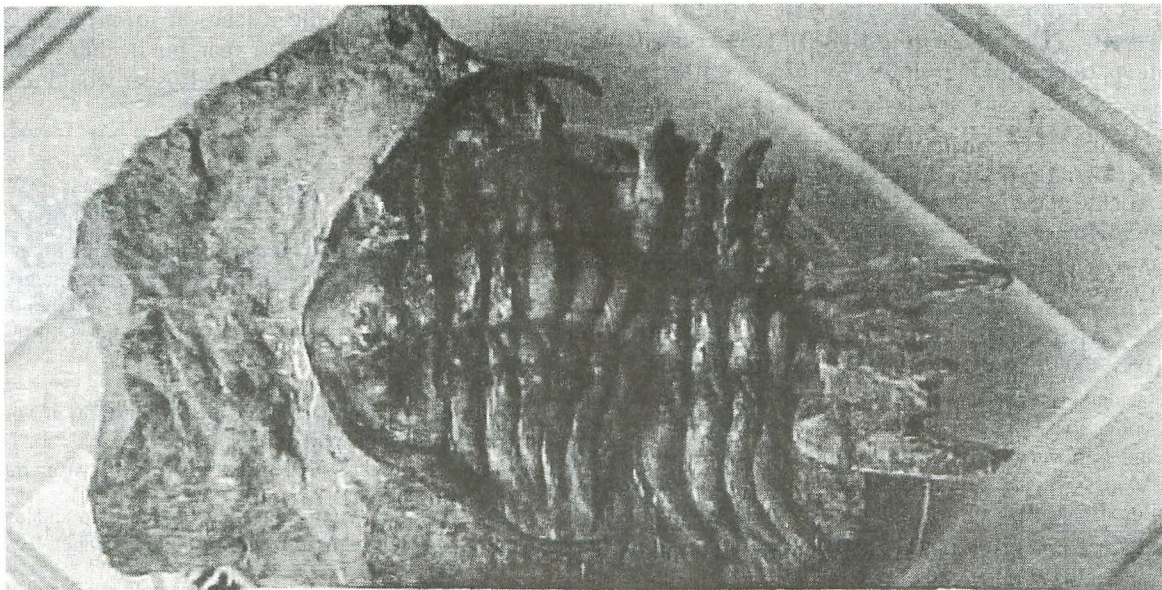


M.A.P.S. *Digest*

Official Publication of
Mid-America Paleontology Society

Volume 24, No 6
October 2001



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Dec 8 MAPS MEETING (Because of scheduling conflicts, the November meeting was moved to December)

Trowbridge Hall, University of Iowa, 123 N. Capital St., Iowa City, IA. Main Lecture Room, #125.

1:00 Board and General meeting

2:00 "An update on the soft-bodied fauna fossils of Eastern Iowa" presented by Bill Hickerson of Black Hawk College in Moline.

Bill is familiar to many MAPS members as one of the more gifted collectors in the area. He participated in the Antarctic Dinosaur expeditions at Augustana - his alma mater. He has presented MAPS programs on numerous occasions - the most recent was several years ago when he was involved in the discovery of a soft-body site in - of all things - the Silurian of Eastern Iowa. Lots of material has been unearthed since that time and Bill will bring us up to date on his work.

Jan 12 MAPS MEETING

Trowbridge Hall, University of Iowa, 123 N. Capital St., Iowa City, IA. Main Lecture Room, #125.

1:00 Board and General meeting

2:00 Program—Chris Brochu

Chris is the new vertebrate man at Iowa. He was involved with the preparation of Sue at the Field Museum but he will present a program on his main interest - before and after Sue - crocodiles.

Feb 9 MAPS BOARD AND GENERAL MEETING & PROGRAM

Trowbridge Hall, University of Iowa, 123 N. Capital St., Iowa City, IA. Main Lecture Room, #125.

1:00 Board and General meeting

2:00 Program—Russ Ciochon

Russ is a paleoanthropologist and will present a program on Gigantopithecus - an extinct ape which was the largest primate ever to roam the earth.

Jun 5-Dec 22 EXTREME ENVIRONMENTS: THE WORLD OF THE EURYPTERID. Paleo Research Inst. (PRI), 1259 Trumansburg Rd., Route 96, Ithaca, NY 14850. 607-273-6623. www.priweb.org

An experimental multimedia experience introduces the world of 350-550 million years ago.

Jun 27-Jan 5 MAKING OF THE MUSEUM: QUEST FOR MEGAFUNA. Paleo Research Inst. (PRI), 1259 Trumansburg Rd., Route 96, Ithaca, NY 14850. 607-273-6623. www.priweb.org

Find the answers to how the PRI recently acquired a number of large vertebrate specimens and what they intend to do with them.

Aug 30-Nov 25 GARDEN OF THE SEA LILY - AN EXHIBIT ON CRINOIDS. Falls of the Ohio State Park, Clarksville, IN

See spectacular crinoids across geological time from private and museum collections. The exhibit will focus on their biology and ecology and is planned to include a marine aquarium with living crinoids. Admission to the park Interpretive Center is \$2 for adults and \$1 for children. See Falls of the Ohio Festival for contact info.

Nov 10-11 FLORIDA FOSSIL FAIR-HERBIVORES, Central Florida Fairgrounds, 4603 West Colonial Drive, Orlando, FL 32808

Sat. 9-6; Sun. 9-4

Contact Terry Angell 407-327-4045;
tangell@floridafossilhunters.com

Nov 17 DINOSAURS OLD AND NEW. Lizzadro Museum, 220 Cottage Hill, Elmhurst, IL 60126. 630-833-1616

2:00 60 min. Lecture by dinosaur specialist Dennis Kinzig. Ages 8-adult. Memb.-free; Non Memb.-\$.3. Reservations recommended.

Nov 30-Dec 2 FOSSIL FEST 2001—11TH ANNUAL FOSSIL FEST
Old settlers Park in Round Rock, Texas

Fri 10 to 5; Sat. 10 to 5; Sun 10 to 5

Contact: Mike Smith (512) 288-6582. www.texaspaleo.com/ctps

Mar 24-25 BUFFALO SHOW—INCLUDES FOSSILS

Erie County Fairgrounds, Hamburg, NY

Sat. 10-7; Sun. 10-5

Contact Bob Hoffman 716-681-6875; RJH52089@earthlink.net

Apr 12-14, 2002 MAPS NATIONAL FOSSIL EXPOSITION XXIV - TRACKS, TRAILS, and TRACES

Western Illinois University, Macomb, IL

Fri., Apr. 12 8 am - 5 pm Keynote Speaker @ 7:30

Sat., Apr. 13 8 am - 5 pm Meeting & Live Auction @ 7:00

Sun., Apr. 14 8 am - 12 noon

Information will be included in the December issue.

ABOUT THE COVER

by JoAnne & Dwayne Bock

This month's cover is the trilobite

CHEIRURUS GLADIATOR

M. ORDOVICIAN

PUTILOVO QUARRY, RUSSIA

JoAnne bought this Specimen at MAPS 2000 from Stan Pogorelsky. Stan is from St. Petersburg but I think he is staying with his mother, who teaches at Iowa State. We thought we would see him at expo last year, but he didn't show. JoAnne has a large collection (as Doug DeRosear would testify to) from all over the world.

991/09 DUES ARE DUE

Are your dues due? You can tell by checking your mailing label. It reflects dues received by October 25. The top line gives the expiration date in the form of "99year" followed by month--991/10 means 2001/October. Dues cover the issue of the Digest for the month in which they expire.

We do not send notices but will let you know if you are overdue by highlighting your mailing label and stamping your Digest. We carry overdues for two issues before dropping them from our mailing list.

Please include on your check your due date and name exactly as it appears on your mailing label - or include a label.

Dues are \$20 per U.S./Canadian household per year. Overseas members may choose the \$20 fee to receive the Digest by surface mail or a \$30 fee to receive it by air mail. (Please send a check drawn on a United States bank in US funds; US currency; a money order; or a check drawn on an International bank in your currency.) Library/Institution fee is \$25.

Make check payable to MAPS and mail to:

Sharon Sonnleitner, Treas.

4800 Sunset Dr. SW

Cedar Rapids, IA 52404

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD

October 14

The board met at the Visitors Center of Devonian Fossil Gorge, north of Iowa City, Iowa. The following items were acted on:

The question of security at Expo was raised. Marv Houg will contact the University to see what extra security measure may be required.

Continued discussion of uses for the David B. Jones Foundation grant brought the suggestion that we support junior high-high school students in research projects with graduate students or faculty at universities. Highly interested and motivated students could be selected through teacher recommendation. A program could be started at the University of Iowa and copied by others.

Our speaker, Dr. Brian Glenister, announced that progress is being made on making time periods global. He presented a program on the correlation between the Devonian Fossil Gorge fossils and their modern counterparts in the south Florida and Caribbean seas to show the conditions in Iowa during the Devonian.

MORE ABOUT LAST ISSUE'S COVER

by JoAnne Bock

(The July-September issue of the Digest featured a specimen of Hoplolichas furcifer.)

I have one of the "Lichus furcifer" trilobites purchased from Stan Pogorelsky at MAPS Expo 2000. (I have also seen it labeled as Hoplolichas furcifer—don't ask me what is right.) It is beautiful! Before the fall of the Iron Curtain, specimens like the one on the last issue were unheard of outside RUSSIA. My specimen is from the family of trilobites that has the fewest complete specimens known—the Lichid family. Lichid trilobites of any type are rare, but few are as ornate as this one. It is a new species of Hoplolichas. Only a handful of this type has ever been found complete. It has two freestanding "horns" off the back of its head, two freestanding genal spines, or FOUR freestanding vertical thoracic spines. It also has large compound eyes—just one of the features that makes it different than *Hoplolichas furcifer*. Add to it the many pustules and beautiful coloring and you have one of the most uncommon and displayable types of trilobites in the world.

From information on the label Stan had with it.

JAMES (JIM) B. MERRETT PASSES AWAY

Word has reached us that MAPS members Jim Merrett, Dallas, Texas, lost his battle with cancer earlier this year. Jim, who came to Expo for many years with the late Ken Smith, brought an infectious smile and quick wit. His many collections were donated to museums and other worthy recipients. We send our sincere sympathy to his family and friends.

GLENN CROSSMAN COLLECTION DONATED TO UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

MAPS member Glenn Crossman's extensive fossil collection was donated to the University of Iowa upon his death. MAPS had nominated Glenn for the Paleo Society's Strimple Award because of his previous donations and his assistance to professional paleontologists.

SLATE OF OFFICERS FOR 2002

President:	Marvin Houg
1st Vice President:	Dale Stout
2nd Vice President:	Gil Norris
Secretary:	Alberta Cray
Treasurer:	Sharon Sonnleitner,
Director (thru 2004):	Blane Phillips
Directors (Continuing):	Tom Walsh (thru 2002) Allyn Adams (thru 2003)
Imm. Past President:	Karl Stuekerjuergen

WANTED:

ARTICLES, COVERS, REPORTERS

I am looking for articles and covers for the *Digest*. Articles can be on any aspect of fossil collecting, preparation, or study, a human interest story, a public collecting site, summary of newspaper article (with source), book review—anything you'd like to share with other members.

Covers can be photos or drawings of any specimen, representations of a time period, or any other fossil-related subject.

Articles can be sent typed, legibly handwritten, or by e-mail in Word, Wordperfect, or plain text. Pictures can also be mailed or sent by e-mail in jpg, or bmp. The *Digest* needs YOU to continue to interest others!

Sharon Sonnleitner—sonnb@aol.com

4800 Sunset Dr. SW

Cedar Rapids, IA 52404

FOSSILS ON FEDERAL AND INDIAN LANDS—PART VII

Report of the Secretary of the Interior, May 2000

<http://www.doi.gov/fossil/fossilreport.htm>

This report of will run in several installments

APPENDIX B. SUMMARY OF COMMENTS

Summary of Public Comments from *Federal Register* Notice, 64 FR 27803-27804, May 21, 1999 and Public Meeting, June 21, 1999

This section summarizes the comments received at the open meeting and during the public comment period for the background paper on the collection, storage and preservation of fossil resources on federal lands. The Action or Response column indicates how comments

were addressed in the draft report. Comments have been paraphrased in order to integrate the major points.

Summary of Public Comments from *Federal Register* Notice, 64 FR 58094, October 28, 1999

This section summarizes the comments received during the public comment period on the draft report “Assessment of Fossil Management on Federal and Indian Lands,” and how the comments were addressed in the final report. Comments have been paraphrased in order to integrate the major points.

Comment	Action or Response
Fossils are a rare, non-renewable resource and part of our natural heritage.	Incorporated into Principles 1 and 2.
Fossils of extinct groups are non-renewable; more will be discovered but from a finite supply.	Incorporated into Principle 1.
A fossil collected without contextual data has often lost much of its value.	Addressed and considered in Principle 4.
Only when specimens are properly collected and curated in public institutions are they accessible for research and study. The general public benefits through various kinds of access to these public institutions.	Incorporated into Principle 6.
Vertebrate fossils from public lands are an educational and scientific resource that should remain in the public domain, preserved for the enjoyment of all.	Incorporated into Principle 2.
Existing Federal laws are inadequate to protect vertebrate fossils and to ensure the broadest access for citizens.	Considered in Principles 4 and 6.
Penalties for illegal collection of fossils are ineffective, as they do not act as deterrents to those enticed by the high commercial value commanded by many vertebrate fossils.	Considered in Principle 4.
Prohibit commercial collection from public lands because such collection leads to the loss of contextual data, resulting in a reduction of the fossils' scientific value.	Considered in Principles 1, 4 and 6. The possibility of commercial collection of fossil specimens from public lands was reviewed, but ultimately was determined not to be a viable option because of the likely loss of scientific and educational information and public enjoyment. Few comments supported commercial collection on federal lands. Fossils for commercial use may be collected from non-federal lands.
Most invertebrate and plant fossils are fairly common, and their collection should not require a permit. Favor continuing the existing policies of some agencies that allow collection of these fossils for noncommercial use.	Considered and incorporated in Principle 3. See Table 1. Each agency has laws and regulations that govern collecting on lands they administer.
Not all vertebrate fossils are rare.	Considered in Principles 1 and 2. Current scientific evidence indicates that the majority of vertebrate fossils are rare.

<p>Amateurs, hobbyists and commercial fossil collectors may lack the knowledge and experience to collect fossils and data appropriately. No one should collect scientifically significant specimens without professional oversight. Only qualified individuals should be issued permits for collecting scientifically significant fossils on public lands.</p>	<p>Considered in Principle 7. The agencies and most paleontologists and institutions recognize the contribution of amateur collectors to science and education. Many programs provide training by professionals. Professional paleontologists may be assisted by properly trained amateurs in the field, and amateurs with appropriate training may qualify for permits. See Table 2.</p>
<p>Some vertebrate fossil specimens can remain in the ground, properly protected, for later collection.</p>	<p>Considered in Principles 5 and 7. The agencies recognize, from their land management activities, that fossils are lost to erosion. With proper field techniques, specimens can be left in place for later collection. Proper protection of specimens left in place at the end of the field season for later collection is a permit requirement. Agencies are using cyclic monitoring in highly erosive areas to prevent loss of important specimens.</p>
<p>There is a need for a uniform federal policy with consistent regulations in regards to fossil resource management. Uniform regulations would provide better customer service and consistency in the permit application process between agencies.</p>	<p>Considered in the overall report and the 7 principles. The land management agencies have different mandates for land use and resource management that may not make possible consistent regulations for all agencies. However, where mandates are similar, the agencies are striving for better customer service through consistent policy. Policies on collection of vertebrates, prohibition of commercial collection and treatment of significant specimens are similar or identical.</p>
<p>State clearly what is open for the public (amateurs and hobbyists) to collect.</p>	<p>Considered and addressed in Principle 3. See also the Executive Summary and Table 1. BLM allows the collection of most invertebrate and plant fossils without a permit on the lands it administers. BLM also allows the collection of limited amounts of petrified wood (a mineral material).</p>
<p>There is a need for a clear definition of fossils, as well as what can be collected under a permit by qualified parties.</p>	<p>Considered in Principles 2 and 3. "What is a fossil" is discussed in the background paper and the glossary of this report.</p>
<p>The federal government should financially aid the public repositories that hold federal fossil collections through partnerships and funding.</p>	<p>Considered and addressed in Principle 6.</p>
<p>There is a need for uniform standards for curation, preservation and storage for repositories and a uniform national database using new technologies for cataloguing, preserving and presenting data.</p>	<p>Considered and incorporated into Principles 5 and 6.</p>
<p>Fossils are destroyed by erosion and weathering; therefore uncollected fossils may be lost forever.</p>	<p>Considered in Principles 5 and 7. The agencies recognize from their land management activities, recognize that fossils are lost to erosion. With proper field techniques, specimens can be left in place for later collection. Proper protection of specimens left in place at the end of the field season for later collection is a permit requirement. Agencies are using cyclic monitoring in highly erosive areas to prevent loss of important specimens.</p>
<p>Not all fossil specimens are suitable for curation and preservation in a public institution.</p>	<p>Considered in Principles 3 and 6, and in Table 1. Many kinds of fossils on public lands are available for amateurs to collect without a permit.</p>

Not all fossil collections in museums are accessible to the public.	Considered in Principle 6. Most specimens in museums are collected for scientific interest and have limited general appeal. They are often too fragile to survive handling, but displays and publications based on what is learned from them are publicly available.
There is not enough space in repositories to house all the specimens found on federal lands nor enough dollars to excavate and curate them all.	Considered in Principle 6. Effective partnerships with museums of all kinds have so far provided housing for federal specimens as needed.
New legislation and policy is needed that would permit any interested party to collect any fossil from public lands. Of the fossils collected, scientifically significant fossils would be made available by the collector for research and study.	Considered in Principles 2, 3 and 7.
Commercial collection is good for the economy - it creates jobs and creates influx into the tax base.	Considered in Principle 1. Fossils for commercial use may be collected from non-federal lands.
Support for the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) report on "Paleontological Collecting" recommendations.	Considered throughout the report. Federal agencies have already implemented as many of the NAS recommendations as possible under the current legal framework.

AN URGENT MESSAGE FOR ALL COMMERCIAL DEALERS AND COLLECTORS

from A.A.P.S. President, Neal Larson
sent by John Babiarz and Carl J. Cook

(At the SVP meeting [in early October] in Bozeman, MT, the committee voted to give 50% of the auction funds to the Governmnet [World Wildlife]Liaison Fund. Personally, I didn't think that was right, but it was done. Many other members disagreed also, but to no avail. John Babairz)

October 5, 2001

Dear Fellow Collectors and Dealers:

I received an e-mail from a former coworker who now works for Nevada Senator Harry Reid (Democratic Senate Majority Whip) in Washington, DC. He said they wanted to get some comments from "amateurs" so here goes.

The Society of Vertebrate Paleontology (SVP) and a group called Save America's Fossils for Everyone (SAFE) has persuaded members of the House and Senate to submit a bill next week which will make it illegal to collect almost all fossils from Public Lands. The PDF file containing the draft language of the bill is included as an attachment to this e-mail. To see the SVP position you can download the following online journal issue:

<http://www.vertpaleo.org/bulletin/178.pdf>

You'll need Adobe Acrobat Reader, and the pertinent pages are 7-10. SVP would even like to shut down fossil collecting in other countries, probably through import/export restrictions. A May 2000 position paper written by the Department of Interior (under the previous administration) can be downloaded at:

http://www.fs.fed.us/geology/senate_report.htm

(This is the report that has been running in the last several issues of the Digest—Part VII is above. Editor)

The SVP and Department of Interior positions, which are reflected in the bill, are chilling. This legislation would criminalize the collection of fossils from Public Lands to all but a select few. To collect fossils on federal lands, one will have to get a permit, which will be issued only for research and educational purposes. All fossils collected would be property of the US Government, to be stored at a federally approved depository. A small amount of "common" fossils could be collected by amateurs under the conditions that they be for personal use only (NONE to be sold), must be dug with hand tools only with no "significant" disturbance, and that the federal land manager of the area must consent to amateurs collecting fossils on lands that they control. This last point means that amateur collecting would be a discretionary activity, to be determined by each of the hundreds of land managers for the BLM and US Forest Service (USFS).

If this bill is passed, collection of fossils on Public Lands (i.e., BLM, USFS) for commercial purposes would be forbidden. If the value of the material is less than \$1000, the crime would be a CLASS A MISDEMEANOR, if over \$1000 then it is a CLASS E OR CLASS D FELONY. Your automobile and collecting equipment could be confiscated, fines up to twice the damages are possible, as is jail time. Anyone who collects, encourages someone else to collect, sells, or buys a fossil collected illegally would be subject to these penalties. How will the BLM and USFS enforce this law? Probably through the FBI and Justice Department. Rather than looking for terrorists, bank

robbers and murderers, Congress will have law enforcement set its sights on otherwise law abiding citizens who enjoy collecting fossils and those who currently sell them to universities, museums, teachers, collectors and children.

It appears that the major museum and university paleontologists do not want amateurs (or worse, commercial dealers) collecting fossils. Its bad enough that most fossils are destroyed by weathering before anyone has a chance to find them, but now collecting will be limited to a handful of academic professionals with limited funding, limited staff, and a summer field season. Can you imagine the backlog of unidentified, uncataloged fossils which would pile up at museums and universities waiting for someone who has the time to examine them?

One of the flaws of logic presented in this bill is the idea that the majority of fossils are rare. There are probably billions of fossils on Public Lands, at tens of thousands of fossil sites. How could the collecting of fossils by amateur and professional collectors significantly impact these sites? How many fossils from how many sites are actually being studied by academicians? How many millions of fossils will be lost due to weathering before they can be collected and preserved? Very few I'll wager. There are approximately 2,000 members of SVP, not all of whom would be accredited to collect if this bill was passed. There are over 264 million acres of public land, at least half of which are covered with sedimentary rocks which potentially contain fossils. That would mean each of the 2,000 SVP members would need to collect and study 13,200 surface acres before these fossils are lost to the elements. This is not going to happen! What is wrong with having well educated amateur and professional collectors find fossils, preserve them and possibly sell them to collectors and institutions?

Apparently, the fact that many universities and museums have traditionally acquired fossils or fossil localities from amateur and professional collectors is ignored. As is the fact that many of the fossils bought and enjoyed by the public are collected by amateurs and professional collectors. How many children develop an interest in paleontology and the earth sciences after buying a fossil at a rock shop or gem & mineral show?

If this bill passes, it would be illegal for members of a gem and mineral club to collect trilobites, petrified wood or brachiopods and sell them at a club booth, at a gem & mineral show or a flea market. Professional collectors could expect a federal SWAT team to visit them at their home or place of business (including gem & mineral shows). How will you prove that fossils legally collected on public lands were collected before the bill was enacted? This law would create tens of thousands of potential felons in gem and mineral clubs across America. The May 2000 Department of Interior report recommends:

Future actions should penalize the theft of fossils from federal lands in a way that maximizes the effectiveness of prosecutions and deters future thefts. Penalties should take into account, among other factors, the value of the fossils themselves, as well as any damage resulting from their illegal collection. Future program strategies should emphasize education of federal managers, prosecutors, law enforcement personnel and the judiciary regarding the value of fossils and the techniques for the appropriate protection of fossil resources. (Page 9).

If this bill passes because of collector and dealer apathy, you can be assured that a ban on the collection of mineral specimens, gold and lapidary materials will be soon to follow. Within a few years it will virtually impossible to collect any geologic object from the western United States. How will we interest a new generation of rockhounds, and what will become of the tens of thousands of adults and especially senior citizens who look forward to rockhounding in the wide open spaces? This bill is a serious threat to our hobby, and a further erosion of our rights. I strongly encourage you to write to your congressional representatives. I have included the following links to find the appropriate addresses of your congressmen:

<http://www.senate.gov/senators/index.cfm>
<http://www.house.gov/>

Also, please send a copy of the letter, fax or e-mail to Sen. Harry Reid (D-NV) at:

Senator Harry Reid
 528 Hart Senate Office Building
 Washington, DC 20510
 202-224-0492 - PHONE
 202-224-7327 - FAX
harry_reid@reid.senate.gov

Unfortunately, we do not have much time to mount a credible defense. I hope we can persuade our congressional leaders to reconsider this assault on our sensibilities. In your communications with your representatives you may want to use some of the points I have brought up in my letter. Please let them know how this bill will affect you. Be logical in your comments and show them that the majority of collectors are responsible citizens who do contribute to the body of paleontological knowledge.

Sincerely,
 Walt Lombardo, Nevada Mineral & Book Company

<p>ONE VOICE By Debbie Goldstein, 9/13/01 In memory of those lost in the terrorist attacks on 9/11/01</p>	
<p>The broken heart of a country, Trying to live with its pain, Becomes one voice in prayer, Its hopes and fears the same.</p>	<p>Together, we ask you, God, In one voice, rising above, Take care of those we lost, And shower them with your love.</p>
<p>With one great voice we pray, Millions of voices strong, Asking God to help us Deal with all this wrong.</p>	<p>Let them know we miss them, And though we are apart, We will never forget them, They're forever in our hearts.</p>
<p>One voice raised to Heaven, Through tears of pain we pray, We ask you, God, to guide us, And help us find our way.</p>	<p>And as one voice, in unity, With harmony, hand in hand, We will not fail, we will prevail- Together, <u>we will stand.</u></p>
<p>United in our anguish, We reach into our souls, Trying to find the answer, Where from here we'll go.</p>	

ADVERTISING SECTION

Ads are \$5.00 per inch. Send information and checks payable to MAPS to : Mrs. Gerry Norris, 2623 34th Avenue Ct., Rock Island, IL 61201. Phone: (309) 786-6505
This space is a \$5.00 size.

To extend currently running ads, please send request and remittance to Editor by the 15th of the month. We do not bill. Ads do not run in the EXPO issue (April)
Ads can be printed in different sizes of type to fit a 1" space.

2002 CENTRAL ILLINOIS FOSSIL SHOW My-J to Mar 02
Macomb Inn (Days Inn)
1400 N. LaFayette, Macomb, Illinois

HOURS: Wed., April 10 10:00 p.m. until late evening
Thurs., April 11 9:00 a.m. until late evening
Fri. & Sat., April 12-13 By appointment during MAPS show times & eves.

The intent of this show is to enhance MAPS Expo and to allow dealers who need it more selling space.

For show info, contact: **Dan Damrow 715-457-6634**
Chuck Warren 517-439-5632

To reserve a selling room contact Macomb Inn at: 309-833-5511 (Tiffany)

BRAND NEW WEB SITE F,M,M-J, J-S, O
One of the largest Fossil Sites on the Net.
Fossils of all Varieties

Old Paleontology Books, Antique Bottles, Indian Artifacts, and Minerals

Go to:

www.geocities.com/fossil



Neuropteris heterophylla

Carboniferous. Piesberg, Germany (21" x 15")

PaleoSearch, Inc. • Glenn/Barb Rockers • P.O. Box 621, Hays, KS 67601
Phone 785-625-2240 • Fax 785-625-2235

web site: www.paleosearch.com • e-mail: rockers@paleosearch.com

PALEOSEARCH....

specializing in
outstanding research
and exhibit fossils
since 1983

- Online catalog - updated monthly:
www.paleosearch.com
- FREE monthly color flyer
- FREE shipping on orders over \$100
- We accept Visa, MasterCard, Discover and American Express

Over 200 Museum Replica Fossils

www.PaleoClones.com



The Museum Where You Can Purchase Every Exhibit™

1-800-822-6788

NEWS | MUSEUMS | LINKS | CLUBS

PREHISTORIC

PLANET.COM

The World
Of Fossils
And
Natural
History
Online

**ILLINOIS STATE MUSEUM LAUNCHES
NEW MAZON CREEK
COLLECTIONS DATABASE**

from *LOESS Bulletin*, via *The Show me Geode*, Cedla Tiffany, Ed.
4/01

The Illinois State Museum has constructed anew database of information pertaining to specimens in its collections of Mazon Creek fossils. The database will be publicly accessible from the Museum's Web site starting near the end of March 2001.

The Mazon Creek Collections Database currently includes information from the Museum's catalog records. The catalog records provide data such as a fossil's taxonomic identification, collecting locality, and geologic unit. Also included with most records is a high-resolution digital image of the fossil and bibliographic references for publications in which the fossil has been figured.

Like many online collections databases, the Mazon Creek Collections Database will allow searching for specific keywords and browsing by grouped records. Unlike most other databases, however, visitors and researchers will also be encouraged to attach their own comments, references, and annotations to the records.

The database will debut with information on the 1673 specimens of the Langford Collection, donated to the Museum in 1938 by collectors George Langford, Sr., and George Langford, Jr. Hundreds of additional Mazon Creek specimens from the Worthen, Enreita, Ryba, and general collections will be added to the database over the coming months.

...(T)he Mazon Creek Collections Database (is) available on the Museum's web site at:

http://www.museum.state.il.us/exhibits/mazon_creek/.

PLEASE ADD THE FOLLOWING NEW OR REJOINING MEMBERS TO YOUR DIRECTORY:

Gordon Stone
3 Fosters Way
Bradwell Village
Milton Keynes
Bucks, MK13 9HD
ENGLAND

Steve & Mary Webber
P.O. Box 73
Palo IA 52324
319-851-5833

Retired. Just getting started (01). Want to learn more about where and how to find and clean fossils.

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING CHANGES OF ADDRESS OR CORRECTIONS:

Mary & John Boland
N2047 Valley Road
LaCrosse WI 54601
608-788-6994
boland@prodigy.net

Retired Research Engineer. Interested in all fossils. No trades.

Christy Bowling
Michael Green
8015 E ST RD 48
Milan IA 47031

Waitress. May trade. Major interest trilobites and shark teeth. Like the thrill of the hunt. Want to learn more about the fossils they find and better areas to look.

Chris & Guy Di Torrice
PO Box 256
Newport OR 97365
541-961-2489
chrisandguy@newportnet.com

Destination Marketing. Will trade. Major interest expanding collection beyond Miocene marine...bringing fossil education/collecting in schools/linked to earth science(s). Have for trade wide variety of Astoria Formation Miocene invertebrates, some mammal bone, earlier leaf impressions from Goshen/John Day formations. All from OR. Looking to contact with like-minded people.

Darlene Faerber
7854 Darnell Street
Lenexa, KS 66216-3704
913-268-6786

Medical Receptionist. Main interest crinoids & trilobites. Secondary interests fossil shells; shark teeth; plants (esp. wood); insects; vert.; & comparative paleo. Also any well-defined fossils. Wants to learn from contact & meet others w/same interests.

Randy Faerber
PMB 157
14904 W. 87th St. Pkwy
Lenexa KS 66215-4159
913-2322-6786
wk 913-762-4514
randy.a.fauberber@mail.sprint.com

Senior Systems Analyst. Main interest ammonites & echinoids. Secondary interests fossil shells; shark teeth; plants (esp. wood); insects; vert.; & comparative paleo. Also any well-defined fossils. Wants to learn from contact & meet others w/same interests

Deanne I. Slater
6252 Norwaldo Ave
Indianapolis IN 46220-2131
317-253-6951
deeis@aol.com

Registered nurse. Not enough to trade yet ('01)

BOOK REVIEW

AMBER, by Andrew Ross

1998. Natural History Museum publication Harvard, USA ISBN 0-674-01729-3

Reviewed by Les Tennent, The Fossil Collector

The Fossil Collectors' Association of Australasia, September 2001

from *Paleo Newsletter*, Jean Wallace, Ed., 10/01

How many of us have gone to gem, mineral or fossil shows and seen those near perfect insects in amber? Apart from fancy minerals and huge slabs of fossil they were amongst the first to catch my eye at any I went to! Of course the first reaction is sometimes, "It's got to be fake!"..... and the second has to be "How do you know it's real then?" No one at the time could ever tell me. Of course sometimes the dealers just said to trust them and others (not very politely) just told me to go away and even a few said they didn't have a clue. The first few chapters of this book deal with how amber is formed, what its properties are and then it goes on to tell you the tests to determine if amber is real or fake — so all your questions are answered!

The book itself is quite small containing only 73 pages and at a cost of approximately AU\$26 some may think it's not a very good value for the money. It was recommended to me by Paul Tierney who I've trusted to identify some of my specimens, so I also trusted him on the book as well. I'm very glad I did! Although not large in size, it is one of the most comprehensive books on amber I've seen. Along with a load of excellent pictures and the basics of what amber is, where it is found, etc., Ross has also done a very easy to follow identification section. You only have to answer a series of questions like "does the specimen have 6, 8 or more legs?" Then go to "x", drawing identification is then made simple. All the pictures show great detail and, in my opinion, it would be worth the money just for those.

Overall definitely value for the money. It is available from the US online bookshops or can be ordered at most good bookshops in Australia where you save the postage costs.

FALLS OF THE OHIO FEST A BIG SUCCESS

by Alan Goldstein

The Falls Fossil Festival at the Falls of the Ohio State Park was a big success! Despite the September 11 disaster, we had our usual crowd (~2000 people). Liter's Quarry gave away 800 plastic hard hats to (mostly) kids in the fossil collecting piles. I know of a couple Caryocrinites cystoids found by children. No telling how many more were hauled away! My funniest story involves a 9 or 10 year old girl carrying a slab of Waldron shale about 15"x15"x3" thick. I asked her what her treasure was. She dropped the boulder and pointed to a *Stegerhynchus brachiopod* an 1/8" across! We trimmed it down - a nice snail popped out in the process - and the brachiopod ended up in a 2 oz. slab instead of 10 pounds!

The teacher workshops and speakers worked out very well. Dr. William I. Ausich gave an interesting program on the natural history of crinoids with slides of living and some of the bizarre fossil forms.

Our current exhibit on crinoids - "Garden of the Sea Lily" - is slated to go through November 26, but may run through the end of the year.

The Mid-America Paleontology Society (MAPS) was formed to promote popular interest in the subject of paleontology; to encourage the proper collecting, study, preparation, and display of fossil material; and to assist other individuals, groups, and institutions interested in the various aspects of paleontology. It is a non-profit society incorporated under the laws of the State of Iowa.

Membership in MAPS is open to anyone, anywhere who is sincerely interested in fossils and the aims of the Society.

Membership fee: \$20.00 per household covers one year's issues of DIGESTS. For new members and those who renew more than 3 issues past their due date, the year begins with the first available issue. Institution or Library fee is \$25.00. Overseas fee is \$20.00 with Surface Mailing of DIGESTS OR \$30.00 with Air Mailing of DIGESTS. (Payments other than those stated will be pro-rated over the 9 yearly issues.)

MAPS meetings are held on the 2nd Saturday of October, November, January, and March and at EXPO in April. A picnic is held during the summer. October through March meetings are scheduled for 1 p.m. in Trowbridge Hall, University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa. One annual International Fossil Exposition is held in April.

The MAPS official publication, MAPS DIGEST, is published 9 months of the year—October through April, May/June, and July/August/September. View MAPS web page at <http://midamericapaleo.tripod.com/>

- President: Karl Stuekerjuergen, 1503 265th Ave., West Point, IA 52656-9029
- 1st Vice President: Dale Stout, 2237 Meadowbrook Dr. SE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52403
- 2nd Vice President: Marvin Houg, 3330 44th St. NE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52402
- Secretary: Alberta Cray, 1125 J Avenue NW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52405
- Treasurer (Send Dues To): Sharon Sonnleitner, 4800 Sunset Dr. SW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52404
- Membership: Dale Stout, 2237 Meadowbrook Dr. SE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52403
- Directors: Blane Phillips (01), Tom Walsh (02), Allyn Adams (03)

Dated Material - Meeting Notice

CYATHOCRINITES



Mrs. Sharon Sonnleitner
 MAPS DIGEST Editor
 4800 Sunset Dr. SW
 Cedar Rapids, IA 52404

FIRST CLASS MAIL